

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

- 5 1. (currently amended) A search method, comprising the operations steps
of:
a browser receiving a user's query and submitting the query to a search
engine;
the browser receiving from the search engine a results list of at least one
10 item of search results arising from the query where each said item
is associated with at least one site, the browser further displaying
the results list;
the browser providing a selection mechanism programmed to receive user
input identifying one or more items of search results from among
15 the displayed results list;
responsive to the browser receiving user input via the selection
mechanism, the browser preparing a search cart list including the
identified items of search results;
the browser displaying of the search cart list and providing the user with
20 access to sites associated with the identified items of search results
directly from the displayed search cart list without the user having
to operate the browser to navigate back to the displayed results list
and select an item of search results therefrom.

~~receiving a query to a search engine from a user;~~

returning a first list of search results in response to said query, said search
results each being associated with at least one site;
providing a selection mechanism within said first list that allows said user
to identify search results of interest from among those search
5 results within said first list;
receiving selection mechanism input from said user, said selection
mechanism input identifying search results of interest from among
those search results within said first list;
adding said identified search results of interest to a second list in response
10 to said input received from said user;
providing said user said second list of search results comprising said
search results of interest; and
allowing said user to visit sites associated with said search results of
interest from said second list without having to select and return to
15 said first list of search results.

2. (currently-amended) The method of Claim 1,
where the operation of the browser displaying the search cart list is
conducted responsive to user request.

20 wherein said search method is implemented in a user client.

3. (currently-amended) The method of ~~Claim 2~~, Claim 1,

where the operation of providing a selection mechanism comprises one of:

providing a selection mechanism built-in to the browser, providing a

selection mechanism that is an add-on to the browser.

~~wherein said user client is a browser.~~

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4. (currently amended) The method of Claim 1,

where the operation of submitting the query to a search engine comprises

submitting the query to a search engine of Internet web sites.

~~wherein said method is implemented in a server.~~

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5. (previously presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein said selection mechanism input is generated responsive to a mouse-over click.

6. (currently amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein said search cart

15 ~~second~~ list is any of a pull down and a side bar.

7. (currently amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein said selection mechanism comprises a separate checkbox associated with each item of said displayed results list. ~~of said search results in said first list.~~

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8. (currently amended) The method of Claim 1, further comprising the operation step of:

providing an edit facility for entries made to said search cart ~~second~~ list.

9. (original) The method of Claim 8, said edit facility providing functionality for any of editing entries, clearing all entries, and clearing individual sites.

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10. (original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said search comprises any of a content search, file search, and a database search.

11. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the
10 operation step of:

saving entries in said search cart ~~second~~ list in chronological order, where
most recent sites are displayed at a top of said search cart ~~second~~
list.

12. (currently amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein said search cart
15 ~~second~~ list comprises a temporary queue in which entries are not saved across
search sessions.

13. (currently amended) The method of Claim 1, further comprising the
20 operation step of:

responsive to receiving user designation of selected entries within said
search cart list, transferring said selected entries to a nonvolatile
bookmarks list to preserve information related to said selected
entries after a current search session has ended.

~~said user designating selected entries within said second list for transfer to
a bookmarks list to save information related to said selected entries
for use after a current search session has ended.~~

5 14. (original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said search method is
implemented in a search portal.

15. (currently amended) A search apparatus, comprising:

10 first browser means for receiving a user's query and submitting the query
to a search engine;

second browser means for receiving from the search engine a results list
of at least one item of search results arising from the query where
each said item is associated with at least one site, and further
displaying the results list;

15 a selection mechanism means for receiving user input identifying one or
more items of search results from among the displayed results list;

third browser means responsive to receiving user input via the selection
mechanism means for preparing a search cart list including the
identified items of search results;

20 fourth browser means for displaying the search cart list and providing the
user with access to sites associated with the identified items of
search results directly from the displayed search cart list without the

user having to navigate back to the displayed results list and select
an item of search results therefrom.

~~means for receiving a query to a search engine from a user;~~

~~means for returning a first list of search results to said user in response to~~

5 ~~said query, said search results each associated with at least one
site;~~

~~a selection mechanism within said first list that allows said user to identify
search results of interest from among those search results within
said first list;~~

10 ~~means for receiving selection mechanism input from said user, said
selection mechanism input identifying search results of interest
from among those search results within said first list;~~

~~means for adding said identified search results of interest to a second list
in response to said input received from said user;~~

15 ~~means for providing said user said second list of search results comprising
said search results of interest; and~~

~~means for allowing said user to visit sites associated with said search
results of interest from said second list without having to select and
return to said first list of search results.~~

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16. (currently amended) The apparatus of Claim 15,

where the fourth browser means displays the search cart list responsive to
user request.

~~wherein said search apparatus is implemented in a user client.~~

17. (currently amended) The apparatus of ~~Claim 16,~~ Claim 15,

where the selection mechanism means is one of the following: built-in to a

5 browser, an add-on to a browser.

~~wherein said user client is a browser.~~

18. (currently amended) The apparatus of Claim 15,

where the first browser means comprises means for submitting the query

10 to a search engine of Internet web sites.

~~wherein said search apparatus is implemented in a server.~~

19. (previously presented) The apparatus of Claim 15, wherein said

selection mechanism input is generated responsive to a mouse-over click.

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20. (currently amended) The apparatus of Claim 15, wherein said search

cart ~~second~~ list is any of a pull down and a side bar.

21. (currently amended) The apparatus of Claim 15 wherein said

20 selection mechanism means comprises a separate checkbox associated with

each item of said displayed results list. ~~of said search results in said first list.~~

22. (currently amended) The apparatus of Claim 15, further comprising:

an edit facility for entries made to said search cart second list.

23. (original) The apparatus of Claim 22, said edit facility providing functionality for any of editing entries, clearing all entries, and clearing individual
5 sites.

24. (original) The apparatus of Claim 15, wherein said search comprises any of a content search, file search, and a database search.

10 25. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 15, further comprising:
means for saving entries in said search cart second list in chronological
order, where most recent sites are displayed at a top of said search
cart second list.

15 26. (currently amended) The apparatus of Claim 15, wherein said search
cart second list comprises a temporary queue in which entries are not saved
across search sessions.

20 27. (currently amended) The apparatus of Claim 15, further comprising:
means responsive to receiving user designation of selected entries within
said search cart list for transferring said selected entries to a
nonvolatile bookmarks list to preserve information related to said
selected entries after a current search session has ended.

~~means for said user designating selected entries within said second list for transfer to a bookmarks list to save information related to said selected entries for use after a current search session has ended.~~

5 28. (previously presented) The apparatus of Claim 15, wherein said search apparatus is implemented in a search portal.

29. (currently amended) A computer readable medium containing a computer program product for robustly searching, the computer program product
10 comprising:

program code to receive a user's query and submitting the query to a search engine;

program code to receive from the search engine a results list of at least one item of search results arising from the query where each said
15 item is associated with at least one site, and further display the results list;

program code to receive user input identifying one or more items of search results from among the displayed results list;

program code responsive to the user input identifying one or more items of search results to prepare a search cart list including the identified
20 items of search results;

program code to display the search cart list and provide the user with access to sites associated with the identified items of search results

directly from the displayed search cart list without the user having
to navigate back to the displayed results list and select an item of
search results therefrom.

~~program code for receiving a query to a search engine from a user;~~

5 ~~program code for returning a first list of search results in response to said~~
~~query, said search results each being associated with at least one~~
~~site;~~

~~program code for providing a selection mechanism within said first list that~~

~~allows said user to identify search results of interest from among~~
10 ~~those search results within said first list;~~

~~program code for receiving selection mechanism input from said user said~~

~~selection mechanism input identifying search results of interest~~
~~from among those search results within said first list;~~

~~program code for adding said identified search results of interest to a~~

15 ~~second list in response to said input received from said user;~~

~~program code for providing said user said second list of search results~~

~~comprising said search results of interest; and~~

~~program code for allowing said user to visit sites associated with said~~

~~search results of interest from said second list without having to~~
20 ~~select and return to said first list of search results.~~

30. (new) An enhanced search method operable in an environment
where a browser receives a user's query and submits the query to a search

engine, and the browser receives from the search engine a results list of at least one item of search results arising from the query, where each said item is associated with at least one site, and the browser further displays the results list, the search method comprising operations of:

- 5 the browser providing a selection mechanism programmed to receive user
 input identifying one or more items of search results from among
 the displayed results list;
 responsive to the browser receiving user input via the selection
 mechanism, the browser preparing a search cart list including the
10 identified items of search results;
 the browser displaying the search cart list and providing the user with
 access to sites associated with the identified items of search results
 directly from the displayed search cart list without the user having
 to operate the browser to navigate back to the displayed results list
15 and select an item of search results therefrom.

- 31. (new) A method for enhancing operation of a computer-implemented
browser programmed to receive a user's query and submit the query to a search
20 engine, receive from the search engine a results list of at least one item of search
results arising from the query where each said item is associated with at least
one site, and display the results list, the method comprising operations of:
 modifying the browser by incorporating additional programming operable
 when executed by a computer to perform operations comprising:

the browser providing a selection mechanism programmed to
receive user input identifying one or more items of search
results from among the displayed results list;
responsive to the browser receiving user input via the selection
5 mechanism, the browser preparing a search cart list
including the identified items of search results;
the browser displaying the search cart list and providing the user
with access to sites associated with the identified items of
search results directly from the displayed search cart list
10 without the user having to operate the browser to navigate
back to the displayed results list and select an item of search
results therefrom.

32. (new) The method of claim 31, where the operation of modifying the
15 browser comprises downloading a client-side extension comprising one of the
following: a plug-in, an XML applet, a Java applet, a JavaScript applet.